

Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion

Official USDA Food Plans: Cost of Food at Home at Four Levels, U.S. Average, June 2001¹

	WEEKLY COST				MONTHLY COST			
AGE-GENDER GROUPS	Thrifty plan	Low-cost plan	Moderate- cost plan	Liberal plan	Thrifty plan	Low-cost plan	Moderate- cost plan	Liberal plan
INDIVIDUALS ²								
CHILD:								
1 year	16.30	20.10	23.60	28.60	70.60	87.10	102.30	123.90
2 years	16.20	20.10	23.60	28.60	70.20	87.10	102.30	123.90
3-5 years	17.70	22.00	27.30	32.70	76.70	95.30	118.30	141.70
6-8 years	21.90	29.30	36.50	42.50	94.90	127.00	158.20	184.20
9-11 years	26.00	33.20	42.50	49.30	112.70	143.90	184.20	213.60
MALE:								
12-14 years	26.90	37.60	46.60	54.80	116.60	162.90	201.90	237.40
15-19 years	27.70	38.80	48.30	55.70	120.00	168.10	209.30	241.30
20-50 years	29.60	38.50	48.00	58.20	128.30	166.80	208.00	252.20
51 years and over	26.80	36.60	45.10	54.20	116.10	158.60	195.40	234.80
FEMALE:								
12-19 years	26.90	32.40	39.30	47.50	116.60	140.40	170.30	205.80
20-50 years	26.90	33.60	41.00	52.60	116.60	145.60	177.70	227.90
51 years and over	26.40	32.80	40.70	48.60	114.40	142.10	176.40	210.60
FAMILIES:								
FAMILY of 2 ³ :								
20-50 years	62.20	79.30	97.90	121.90	269.40	343.60	424.30	528.10
51 years and over	58.50	76.30	94.40	113.10	253.60	330.80	409.00	489.90
FAMILY OF 4:								
Couple, 20-50 years and								
children—								
2 and 3-5 years	90.40	114.20	139.90	172.10	391.80	494.80	606.30	745.70
6-8 and 9-11 years	104.40	134.60	168.00	202.60	452.50	583.30	728.10	877.90

¹Basis is that all meals and snacks are purchased at stores and prepared at home. For specific foods and quantities of foods in the Low-Cost, Moderate-Cost, and Liberal Plans, see *Family Economics Review*, No. 2 (1983); for specific foods and quantities of foods in the Thrifty Food Plan, see *Thrifty Food Plan*, 1999, *Executive Summary*, CNPP-7A. The Thrifty Food Plan is based on 1989-91 data, and the other three food plans are based on 1977-78 data updated to current dollars using the Consumer Price Index for specific food items.

²The costs given are for individuals in 4-person families. For individuals in other size families, the following adjustments are suggested: 1-person—add 20 percent; 2-person—add 10 percent; 3-person—add 5 percent; 5- or 6-person—subtract 5 percent; 7- (or more) person subtract 10 percent.

³Ten percent added for family size adjustment.

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